ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Database updates are transmitted from a primary site to a remote site. The technique includes: destaging modified data to a first volume at the primary site for a current database update, performing a first point in time virtual copy of the modified data on the first volume to a second volume at the primary site, synchronizing the second volume with a third volume, at the remote site, by transmitting the modified data of the second volume to the third volume, and performing a second point in time virtual copy of the modified data on the third volume to a fourth volume, at the remote site. Database updates at the primary site are thus decoupled from the transmission of the database updates to the remote site, so the first volume remains accessible to a host at the primary site, and the fourth volume remains accessible to a host at the remote site.

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PAGE 10/27 * RCVD AT 10/28/2004 9:11:02 AM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/0 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID:5167424366 * DURATION (mm-ss):11-00